

former CIA Special Advisor for Strategy Regarding Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction Programs; and former President Saddam

Hussein of Iraq. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

## Remarks on Signing the American Heart Month Proclamation February 2, 2004

*The President.* Thanks for the warm welcome. Thanks for the kind introduction. [Laughter] I don't know why you reminded them about the pretzel. [Laughter] I am so pleased you all are here. I want to thank Members of the United States Senate who came today, starting with Majority Leader Bill Frist, and Karyn. We're honored you are here. Thanks for coming. Thad Cochran, Susan Collins, and Byron Dorgan, you all are really kind to join us here. It's really important for the Congress to be involved with this initiative, as well as the White House.

I appreciate my friend Elias Zerhouni. He's doing a fabulous job at the National Institute of Health. You really have taken on a tough assignment, and you've done it with such class. Thank you for your service.

I want to thank all the survivors of heart disease who are here. I asked the Vice President what he was up to. [Laughter]

*The First Lady.* What did he say?

*The President.* He said he was heading to the treadmill. [Laughter] I want to thank everybody who is—who shares in this important cause. I really appreciate Laura for helping to lead The Heart Truth, the campaign to educate women about heart disease. I'm really proud of you.

By spreading vital information, this campaign will save women's lives. Heart disease is the leading cause of death for women—and men—so it's important that we send this heart truth message to all our citizens, to all Americans.

It's also important for people to know that the risk of heart disease can be greatly

reduced with good diet and regular exercise. Whatever our age or physical condition or however busy we may be, we can all do something to stay healthy, and that's important.

The miracles of modern medicine we now enjoy make us forget some wisdom from the past, such as, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. It made sense then, and it makes sense today, particularly when you're dealing with heart disease. And so we started what's called the HealthierUS Initiative, which is encouraging Americans to focus on four simple goals: Exercise daily, eat right, avoid tobacco, drugs, and excessive alcohol, and get preventive screenings to detect problems early.

By focusing on these commonsense steps, we can save many lives we lose each year to preventable conditions like heart disease. In other words, just do some wise things with your life. It's just not all that complicated, but it's up to you to make the right choice. It's up to our fellow citizens to make the right decision necessary to protect their bodies.

I want to thank all of you all for working so hard to help citizens make the right choice, to send a clear message, to help people understand the need for healthier lives in America.

And now it's my honor to welcome the heart disease survivors to join Laura and me as I sign the proclamation of American Heart Month, 2004.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:59 a.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his

remarks, he referred to Karyn Frist, wife of Senator Bill Frist. The proclamation is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

## Homeland Security Presidential Directive/HSPD-9—Defense of United States Agriculture and Food *January 30, 2004*

*Subject:* Defense of United States  
Agriculture and Food

### *Purpose*

(1) This directive establishes a national policy to defend the agriculture and food system against terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies.

### *Background*

(2) The United States agriculture and food systems are vulnerable to disease, pest, or poisonous agents that occur naturally, are unintentionally introduced, or are intentionally delivered by acts of terrorism. America's agriculture and food system is an extensive, open, interconnected, diverse, and complex structure providing potential targets for terrorist attacks. We should provide the best protection possible against a successful attack on the United States agriculture and food system, which could have catastrophic health and economic effects.

### *Definitions*

(3) In this directive:

- (a) The term "critical infrastructure" has the meaning given to that term in section 1016(e) of the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 (42 U.S.C. 5195c(e)).
- (b) The term "key resources" has the meaning given that term in section 2(9) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101(9)).
- (c) The term "Federal departments and agencies" means those executive departments enumerated in 5 U.S.C. 101, and the Department of Home-

land Security; independent establishments as defined by 5 U.S.C. 104(1); Government corporations as defined by 5 U.S.C. 103(1); and the United States Postal Service.

- (d) The terms "State," and "local government," when used in a geographical sense, have the same meanings given to those terms in section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101).
- (e) The term "Sector-Specific Agency" means a Federal department or agency responsible for infrastructure protection activities in a designated critical infrastructure sector or key resources category.

### *Policy*

(4) It is the policy of the United States to protect the agriculture and food system from terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies by:

- (a) identifying and prioritizing sector-critical infrastructure and key resources for establishing protection requirements;
  - (b) developing awareness and early warning capabilities to recognize threats;
  - (c) mitigating vulnerabilities at critical production and processing nodes;
  - (d) enhancing screening procedures for domestic and imported products; and
  - (e) enhancing response and recovery procedures.
- (5) In implementing this directive, Federal departments and agencies will ensure